Summary of observations

Components of the Systems Engineering	Summary of observations
Initiative for Patient Safety model	
Person	Most of the staff are female
	• Staff
	o <i>RNs</i> ^a : roles include creating nursing assignments,
	making up the working schedules, developing
	resident's treatment plans, administering medicine
	(Intravenous (IV) and blood) in addition to their
	supervisory role (primary care managers)
	o <i>LPNs</i> ^b : roles include directing bedside care,
	checking vital signs, administering medication,
	collecting samples for testing, feeding patients who
	use feeding tubes, and performing other procedures
	\circ <i>CNAs^c</i> : roles include routine tasks in the provision
	of personal care to residents, such as eating,
	dressing, bathing, and getting in and out of bed
	Unit: long-term care and short-term care unit.
	o Three shifts
	Other: demonstrates a lack of teamwork and poor working
	conditions
Organization	Incompliance with protocols: overruling rounds and muting
	the system
	• LPNs tend not to respond (all staff must respond to alarms),
	the long response time (more than 5 min to respond to a call
	light), lack of collaboration (teamwork and difficulties in
	<i>5</i> ,,

	finding help) and communication, and the nurse station are
	understaffed
	Poor maintenance of the system: many broken parts
	Control over the practice and supervisor support:
	The schedule is flexible to some degree
	There are limitations in providing
	input/suggestions, staff shortage, and blaming staff
	in case of adverse events such as falls
Task	Responding to a call light: all staff are expected to respond
	within 5 min
	High mental and physical workload: information processing
	and memory (divided attention and multitasking: slower and
	less accurate tasks and change blindness), interruptions,
	diagnosticity (staff perceptions about call lights), and alarm
	fatigue
Environment	Layout: not visible (display at nurse station), lights above
	the resident's rooms are not visible (blocked by beams and
	doors), and long hallways (hard to hear)
	Noise: loudspeakers to broadcast alarms; the alarm is on
	most of the time, residents complain about the noise
Technology/tools	Usability issues
	The nurse station is not occupied
	No directional information
	There is a lack of prioritization and low/no discriminability;
	is it a bathroom or bedroom
	Many broken parts (can cause failure to detect changes)
	The location/position of the display (not accessible)

	The staff can mute the system
	The system handles only 1 alarm at a time; new alarm
	"overwrites" previous alarm
	There is no feedback (process to monitor) about the
	previous alarm
	False alarms
	Loudspeakers (noise)
Process	Call lights (alarms) notification and location process
Outcomes	Staff overall job satisfaction, stress, and burnout

^aRN: registered nurse.

^bCNA: certified nurse assistant.

^cLPN: licensed practical nurse.